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SPAHN, GAY

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The species are as follows:

SPECIES I – Fig. 2 with reinforcing component 19 of Fig. 3 and solid slab;

SPECIES II – Fig. 2 with reinforcing component 19 of Fig. 3 and composite slab;

SPECIES III – Fig. 2 with reinforcing component having zig-zag shape line wires and solid slab;

SPECIES IV – Fig. 2 with reinforcing component having zig-zag shape line wires and composite slab;

SPECIES V – Fig. 5 with reinforcing component 19 of Fig. 3 and solid slab;

SPECIES VI – Fig. 5 with reinforcing component 19 of Fig. 3 and composite slab;

SPECIES VII – Fig. 5 with reinforcing component having zig-zag shape line wires and solid slab;

SPECIES VIII – Fig. 5 with reinforcing component having zig-zag shape line wires and composite slab;

SPECIES IX – Fig. 6 with reinforcing component 19 of Fig. 3 and solid slab;

SPECIES X – Fig. 6 with reinforcing component 19 of Fig. 3 and composite slab;

SPECEIS XI – Fig. 6 with reinforcing component having zig-zag shape line wires and solid slab;

OR

SPECEIS XII – Fig. 6 with reinforcing component having zig-zag shape line wires and composite slab.

Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The reply must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

The claims appear to correspond to the species listed above in the following manner:

SPECIES I - claims 1-3, 7, 8, 13-15, and 17

SPECIES II - claims 1-8, 13-15, and 17

SPECIES III – claims 1-3, 7, 9, 13-15, and 17

SPECIES IV – claims 1-7, 9, 13-15, and 17

SPECIES V – claims 1-3, 7, 8, 13-15, and 17

SPECIES VI – claims 1-8, 13-15, and 17

SPECIES VII – claims 1-3, 7, 13-15, and 17

SPECIES VIII – claims 1-7, 9, 13-15, and 17

SPECIES IX – claims 1-3, 7, 8, 10-15, and 17

SPECIES X – claims 1-8, 10-15, and 17

SPECEIS XI – claims 1-3, 7, 9-15, and 17

SPECEIS XII – claims 1-7, 9-15, and 17

The following claim(s) appear to be generic: 1-3, 7, 13-15, and 17.

The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

SPECIES I has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a single profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 2, a reinforcing component with parallel line wires 41 of Fig. 3, and a solid slab;

SPECIES II has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a single profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 2, a reinforcing component with parallel line wires 41 of Fig. 3, and a composite slab;

SPECIES III has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a single profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 2, a reinforcing component with zig-zag shaped line wires, and a solid slab;

SPECIES IV has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a single profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 2, a reinforcing component with zig-zag shaped line wires, and a composite slab;

SPECIES V has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a split profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 5, a reinforcing component with parallel line wires 41 of Fig. 3, and a solid slab;

SPECIES VI has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a split profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 5, a reinforcing component with parallel line wires 41 of Fig. 3, and a composite slab;

SPECIES VII has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a split profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 5, a reinforcing component with zig-zag shaped line wires, and a solid slab;

SPECIES VIII has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a split profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 5, a reinforcing component with zig-zag shaped line wires, and a composite slab;

SPECIES IX has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a split profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 6, a reinforcing component with parallel line wires 41 of Fig. 3, a solid slab, and additional cranked handlebar-shaped reinforcing elements;

SPECIES X has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a split profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 6, a reinforcing component with parallel line wires 41 of Fig. 3, a composite slab, and additional cranked handlebar-shaped reinforcing elements;

SPECIES XI has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a split profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 6, a reinforcing component with

zig-zag shaped line wires, a solid slab, and additional cranked handlebar-shaped reinforcing elements; and

SPECIES XII has the special technical feature of being a composite beam having the combination of a split profiled steel sheet 7 of Fig. 6, a reinforcing component with zig-zag shaped line wires, a composite slab, and additional cranked handlebar-shaped reinforcing elements.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gay Ann Spahn whose telephone number is (571)272-7731. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 10:30 am to 7:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard E. Chilcot can be reached on (571)-272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gay Ann Spahn/
Gay Ann Spahn, Patent Examiner
May 25, 2008